

A huge sports fan, he was a die-hard Hoosier and an original season ticket holder for the Bucs and Rays. He was also a student of history and his insatiable curiosity inspired him to constantly seek knowledge.

As a great patriot of this Nation, he fittingly departed from this world on July 4th at the age of 77. He will be remembered as a man of principle and faith, the life of the party, ready with a joke or story for any occasion, and as a fiercely loyal friend who was always willing to lend a helping hand.

Joe Lettelleir had a life you can hang your hat on. May his memory be everlasting.

BEAUFORT WATER FESTIVAL

HON. NANCY MACE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2022

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 66th Annual Beaufort Water Festival. Since 1956, the Beaufort community has celebrated the community's waterways alongside family and friends, making memories at this time-honored tradition.

Each year, local and national businesses, civic organizations, the military, and hundreds of volunteers give their time and money to support the Festival. Each year, the leader of these volunteers is announced as the following Festival's Commodore.

This year's commodore, Shawna Doran, has given over two decades of service to the Festival and to the community at large. When she isn't leading the Water Festival's army of volunteers, Shawna serves the Beaufort community as a registered nurse and Vice President at Beaufort Memorial Hospital.

I commend Shawna, and all of the Festival's hundreds of volunteers, for their dedication to the festival's motto of "Fun, Sun, and Vitamin Sea."

Lastly, I want to wish one of my dedicated district interns, Mason Dalen, good luck as he participates in the Badminton Tournament, one of the Beaufort Water Festival's many great traditions.

CONGRATULATING SHERIFF BRIAN ASBELL ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE PEORIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peoria County Sheriff Brian Asbell, who is retiring from the Peoria County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) after 27 years of dignified service.

Sheriff Asbell has devoted his entire life to protecting and serving his neighbors and defending our great nation from all enemies, foreign and domestic. His first experience in public service was in the U.S. Army as a Combat Engineer in the First Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, a post he held from 1990 through 1993.

He transitioned to the Army National Guard (ANG) as a Combat Engineer, where he remained until 1996. In the last year of his service to ANG, he joined PCSO as a Correctional Officer. Though he now had two obligations to his immediate community, his commitment and dedication to PCSO flourished and in January 1997, Sheriff Asbell was promoted to Correctional Sergeant. His unrelenting work ethic continued as he was elevated to Patrol Deputy in December 2000, then Detective in January 2005. In this capacity, he strived to reduce crime and solve some of the most difficult cases in every corner of the county. After four years in this capacity, he accepted a new role as Undersheriff and Jail Superintendent, in which he excelled for seven years. He was appointed the 56th Peoria County Sheriff in August 2017 and was elected in November 2018. Not only did Sheriff Asbell carry on the honorable legacy of his predecessors, he helped to modernize PCSO and reshape its relationship with residents.

It is because of exceptional and valorous leaders such as Sheriff Brian Asbell that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again, formally congratulate Peoria County Sheriff Brian Johnson on his retirement and thank him for his 27 years of service to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GILBERT FRANK COELHO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2022

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gilbert Coelho, long-time resident of Firebaugh, who passed away at age 80 on April 15, 2022. He was a strong man of faith and an excellent example of a man of great character.

Gilbert was born in San Leandro, California. He was one of four children born to Otto and Alice Coelho, and they were raised on the family dairy farm in Dos Palos. Gilbert was involved in 4H and FFA where he raised and showed animals with his brothers. He worked on the family farm until the 1960's and at Eagle Field and then on to custom farming with his father in the Hilmar area.

Eventually, Gilbert worked with Western Farm Service, TRI Farms, and Del Monte Fresh Produce. He became a melon growing and harvesting specialist, and a well-respected Pest Control Advisor. Gilbert retired in 2009 and continued with agricultural consulting part-time.

In the Dos Palos/Firebaugh area, Gilbert met Carol Cunha, the love of his life, and they married in November of 1973. Two years later, they made their home in Firebaugh, where they raised their children and attended St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Gilbert was an active member and served on the church finance council and the bereavement committee.

Gilbert gave back to his community and served on the City of Firebaugh/School District Community Recreation Commission and acted as President of the local Lions Club. He was

also a member of the Firebaugh Service Club, Knights of Columbus and Firebaugh Rotary Club. He volunteered for countless local community activities and was always ready to assist. Another passion he displayed for over 37 years was his role as School Board Member and President of the Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified School District Board. He was also a delegate to the California School Boards Association and an Executive Board Member for the Fresno County Trustees association.

Gilbert helped to establish the Westside Institute of Technology which provided invaluable job training to local youth. He developed the Firebaugh High School Ag Department Almond Orchard, farming it with the staff and youth of the community. He could always be seen working the Orchard and serving his community.

Gilbert is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Carol; three children, five grandchildren, three siblings, five in-laws, and many nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Gilbert Frank Coelho. May he be remembered as an inspiration for all who knew him.

HONORING THE LIFE-SAVING ACTIONS OF AGENT JOHN LESLIE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Leslie of Clinton Township, Michigan. His heroic efforts are worthy of commendation.

On the night of Saturday, July 31, 2021, John Leslie was driving on Northwestern Highway when he noticed a vehicle fire on the side of the road. The off-duty border patrol officer and trained Emergency Medical Technician rushed to investigate the scene. Two men who were already at the scene told him that there was a man trapped in the burning vehicle. He saw a person in need and did not hesitate to risk his life to save another.

With the front of the vehicle destroyed by the crash, the driver remained trapped in the vehicle at a scene that was becoming more dangerous by the minute. Endangering himself, he climbed into the back of the vehicle to see if he could help remove the driver. The damage prevented him from pulling him out the back or the front. With the clock ticking, he noticed a bowling ball in the backseat. After several strikes, he broke through the driver's side door and was able to open the door and remove the driver. Moments later, the vehicle was engulfed in flames. Agent Leslie had acted just in time to save the life of the driver. Using his training as an Emergency Medical Technician, he attended to the driver until the authorities arrived on the scene. If it was not for Agent Leslie's heroic actions, the driver would not be alive today.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in thanking Agent John Leslie for his efforts that saved a life. We are grateful for Agent Leslie's service to our country as a Border Patrol Agent protecting us from harm. I am proud to commemorate his heroic efforts here today.